

## CLAIMS

1. A method for handling content off-loading from documents in a document processing system to a repository, comprising the steps of:

5                   storing a copy of an original document from the document processing system in the repository; and

stripping content from the original document in the document processing system to form a stub document, the stub containing at least information to enable retrieval of the stored document from the repository.

2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein said stripping step does not strip descriptive parts of the original document so that the stub document can be identified by a user in the document processing system.
3. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the stub document contains a link to the stored document in the repository.
4. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

15                   retrieving the stored document from the repository when a user attempts to open the stub document; and

re-inserting the stripped content into the stub document from the stored document to restore the original document.

- 20                   5. A method according to Claim 1, wherein said stripping step preserves a unique document identifier in the stub document to keep a link to the stored document valid.

6. In a computing environment, a system for handling content off-loading from documents in a document processing system to a repository, said system comprising:

means for copying an original document from the document processing system to the repository;

5 means for deleting content from the original document in the document processing system to create a stub document in the document processing system, the stub document containing information to enable retrieval of the copied document from the repository.

7. A system for handling content off-loading according to Claim 6, further comprising:

means for retrieving the copied document using the information in the stub document when a user selects to open the stub document; and

means for re-inserting the deleted content into the stub document from the retrieved document.

- 15 8. Computer-readable code for execution in a data processing system for handling content off-loading from documents in a document processing system to a repository, said code comprising:

first subprocesses for storing a copy of an original document from the document processing system in the repository;

- 20 second subprocesses for stripping content from the original document in the document processing system to form a stub document, the stub containing information to enable retrieval of the stored document from the repository and to identify the stub document to a user;

third subprocesses for retrieving the stored document from the repository upon a request to open the original document; and

fourth subprocesses for recreating the original document in the document processing system utilizing the stub document and the retrieved document.